UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *06 October 2010*.
2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-11,13,15-28,57-67,69,71-84,91,92 and 95-97* is/are pending in the application.
　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1-11, 13, 15-28, 57-67, 69, 71-84, 91-92, and 95-97* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
　　a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
　　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
　　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
　　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Office Action is in response to the Amendment filed on 10/06/2010.

2.   In the instant Amendment, claim 97 has been added; claims 12, 14, 29-56, 68, 70, 85-90,

and 93-94 were cancelled; claims 1-3, 57, 92, and 96 have been amended; and claims 1, 57,

and 97 are independent claims. Claims 1-11, 13, 15-28, 57-67, 69, 71-84, 91-92, and 95-97

have been examined and are pending. **This Action is made FINAL**.

Response to Arguments

3.   The objection to the specification, as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the

claimed subject matter in claims 91, 94, and 96, is withdrawn as the claims have been

amended/cancelled.

4.   In view of the recent guideline entitled *"Subject Matter Eligibility of Computer Readable

Media,"* issued on January 26, 2010, by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

(http://www.uspto.gov/patents/law/notices/101_crm_20100127.pdf), the Examiner

respectfully suggests that the limitation *"computer readable storage medium"* recited in

claims 57 and 97 should be amended to *"non-transitory computer readable storage*

medium" to avoid any uncertainty in interpretation of non-statutory subject matter.

5.   The rejections of claims 92, 94, and 96 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraphs, are

withdrawn as the claims have been amended/cancelled.

6.   The rejections of claims 30-38, 41, 43-48, 50-51, and 53-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second

paragraphs, are withdrawn as the claims have been cancelled.

7.   Applicants' arguments in the instant Amendment, filed on 10/06/2010, have been fully

considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' arguments:

a. Parker fails to disclose *"the proxy server modifies the file by using the set of*

    credentials provided by the file sharer."

b. *"[T]here is no disclosure in Rice of a proxy server using a file sharer's (i.e.*

    creator's) own credentials to update the original file after it has been modified by

    a remote user. There is no mention at all of using the file sharer's or document

    *creator's o*wn credentials anytime after the document has been shared."*

The Examiner disagrees for the following reasons:

a. Parker does disclose 'the proxy server modifies the file by using the set of

    credentials provided by the file sharer' (pars. 0034-0037; Figs. 4-5; the file

    manager indicates whether file accessor 198 is a viewer authorized to view the

    file or an editor authorized to modify the file; par. 0042; server 170 stores the

    data in storage 174, from which file accessor 198 can eventually obtain it to view

    or edit file 222, depending on his or her level of authorization; pars. 0048-0050;

    accessor 198 of file 222 and any other authorized accessors can obtain and (if

    authorized as editors) modify data of file 222 via access server 170; pars. 0064-

    0066; any modifications made to file 222 are first made to the cached copy and

    only later applied to the original file in storage 174 of access server 170; pars.

    0081-0087; file manager 102 can designate file accessor 198 as a viewer or

editor; see also pars. 0118-0120 and 0123-0129; Figs. 9-19; User A's computer

1020 retrieves delta data from server 990; rev 0 of the shared file is replaced by

rev 1 modified by user B; similarly, rev 3 of the shared file is updated to obtain

rev 4 edited by user D). It is clear that if the accessor is an 'editor,' as set by the

file's manager/sharer (illustrated in box 520 of Fig. 5), then the accessor is able to

modify the file stored on storage 174 via access server 170/900. In the other

words, by using credentials set by the file's manager/sharer, access server

170/900 authenticates the accessor to determine if the accessor is an 'editor;' if

the accessor is an 'editor,' then the access server 170/900 modifies the shared file

stored on the storage 174 as requested by the accessor. Therefore, Parker

encompasses all limitations in argued above.

b. Rice does disclose the proxy server using a file sharer's (i.e. creator's) own

credentials to update the original file (Rice: pars. 0109-0110; upon execution of

the hyperlink by a remote client 140 a process will be executed by the server 142

by which a remote client 140 will have a thin-client process [i.e., AppLink

application/proxy server] loaded onto it, and then access the remote data file,

while the native application of the data file runs on the server; the originator of a

document AppLink may specify, for example, whether a remote client accessing

the document may alter the document, selected in pull-down list 151, whether the

remote client may save the list locally (pull-down list 152), and whether a

password will be required in order to access the data file being linked) after it has

been modified by a remote user (Rice: par. 0163; because the AppLink is server-

based, it can be changed anytime, and the person viewing it always views the latest version). It is clear that by execution of a hyperlink (AppLink), a process will be executed by the server 142 allowing a remote client to access and modify a remote data file (either stored on other remote client or server) using access rights set by the originator. Regarding the argument wherein the proxy server does not update the file after it has been modified by a remote user. As described in paragraph [0063], *"the AppLink is server*-based, it can be changed anytime, and the person viewing it always views the latest version."* It is clear that when accessing the shared file, a remote user will view the latest version of the shared file (i.e., after the shared file has been modified by either said remote user or other remote users). Therefore, Rice encompasses all limitations in argued above. The Examiner respectfully suggests that the claim be further amended, details in the specification should be incorporated, to distinguish the claimed invention over prior art of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9.   **Claims 1, 57, and 97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)** as being anticipated by Parker

et al., (hereinafter "Parker"), U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0010607, filed on October

31, 2003.

- **Regarding claim 1**, Parker discloses a method for sharing files with remote

users (pars. 0023-0027; Fig. 1), the method comprising:

accepting, at a proxy server, a request from a file sharer to share a file in an

original file location of the file sharer with a remote user (pars. 0079-0084 and 0089-0095;

Figs. 4-5; a manager of the file 'Widget Design Spec.rtf' shares the attached file to other

users, Bob, Charles, and Alice), the file located at a file source inside an internal private

network of the file sharer, said private network having a firewall (par. 0041; Fig. 1; a

firewall-type module can be implemented to detect the presence of a file attachment in a

message, just before transmission via network connection 14);

obtaining, by the proxy server, a set of credentials from the file sharer, wherein

the credentials are used to access the file in the original location (pars. 0079-0084 and

0089-0095; Figs. 4-5; a manager of the file 'Widget Design Spec.rtf' grants three different

types of access authorization to four different people with just a simple e-mail message;

'Bob' and 'Charles' are identified as editors having direct access authorization, whereas

'Alice' is granted direct access authorization to the file, but only to view it);

generating a proxy representation on the proxy server (pars. 0031, 0040-0045,

0059, 0081-0087, and 0109; Figs. 1-2 and 7-*19; wherein at least step 242: 'create*

reference to file' and step 740: 'copy and compress file to access server'; if address 226 is

authorized for direct file access, process 242 creates a reference to file 222; a file

reference can be a hyperlink that allows user to access to the shared file; file accessor 198

can receive message 224 from the file manager to view or edit file 222), wherein the proxy

representation enables remote access to modify the file in the original location inside the

private network (par. 0034; Fig. 1; file manager 102 interacts with computer 110 via input

and output communicated through I/O module 112. (See FIG. 1.) The file manager

identifies a file 222 (resident on a hard disk or other media of storage 114 of FIG. 1) to

which he or she wishes to authorize access by a file accessor; par. 0042; Fig. 1; in such a

variation of system 100, as an example, computer 140 can connect to computer 110 via

network connection 14 for direct file access, omitting server 170; see also pars. 0068-0069

and 0092-*0095; direct file access to file manager's computer from the remote user*),

wherein the proxy representation contains location information used by the proxy server to

locate the file inside said private network (pars. 0031, 0040-0045, 0076-0078 and 0081-

0087; Figs. 1-2; a file reference can be a hyperlink; it includes both human-readable

indicia (e.g., a file name) and associated machine-readable indicia (e.g., a network address

from which the file can be retrieved); a file reference can consist of just text identifying a

network address, which a file accessor can enter into a suitable field (e.g., an address field

of a Web browser) to retrieve the file), and wherein the proxy server contains the set of

credentials of the file sharer that are needed to access the file on the file source (pars. 0079-

0084 and 0089-0095; Figs. 4-5; a manager of the file 'Widget Design Spec.rtf' grants three

different types of access authorization to four different people with just a simple e-mail

message; 'Bob' and 'Charles' are identified as editors having direct access authorization,

whereas 'Alice' is granted direct access authorization to the file, but only to view it);

receiving a request from the remote user to access the proxy representation on

the proxy server (pars. 0035 and 0101-0129; Figs. 1-3 and 9-19; user B edits the shared

file to version v1 from version v0);

providing, the remote user access to the proxy representation and receiving one

or more modifications via the proxy representation on the proxy server from the remote

user (pars. 0031, 0040-0045, 0076-0078 and 0085-0086; Figs. 1-2; accessor can access

the shared file using a file reference; the file reference may consist of just text identifying a

network address or a hyperlink; see also pars. 0035 and 0101-0129; Figs. 1-3 and 9-19;

user B edits the shared file to version v1 from version v0);

wherein the proxy server logs into and interacts with the file source by using the

set of credentials and wherein the proxy server modifies the file by using the set of

credentials provided by the file sharer (pars. 0034-0037; Figs. 4-5; the file manager

indicates whether file accessor 198 is a viewer authorized to view the file or an editor

authorized to modify the file; par. 0042; server 170 stores the data in storage 174, from

which file accessor 198 can eventually obtain it to view or edit file 222, depending on his or her level of authorization; pars. 0048-0050; accessor 198 of file 222 and any other authorized accessors can obtain and (if authorized as editors) modify data of file 222 via access server 170; pars. 0064-0066; any modifications made to file 222 are first made to the cached copy and only later applied to the original file in storage 174 of access server 170; pars. 0081-0087; file manager 102 can designate file accessor 198 as a viewer or editor; see also pars. 0118-0120 and 0123-0129; Figs. 9-19; User A's computer 1020 retrieves delta data from server 990; rev 0 of the shared file is replaced by rev 1 modified by user B; similarly, rev 3 of the shared file is updated to obtain rev 4 edited by user D; see also pars. 0118-0120 and 0123-0129; Figs. 9-19; [by using credentials se*t by the file's manager/sharer, access server 170/900 authenticates the accessor to determine if the accessor is an 'editor;' if the accessor is an 'editor,' then the access server 170/900* modifies the shared file stored on the storage 174 as requested by the accessor]);

wherein after the updating, when the file sharer accesses the file in the original location, changes to the proxy representation made by the remote user are reflected in the file in the original location (pars. 0118-0120 and 0123-0129; Figs. 9-19; User A's computer 1020 retrieves delta data from server 990; rev 0 of the shared file is replaced by rev 1 modified by user B; similarly, rev 3 of the shared file is updated to obtain rev 4 edited by user D).

- **Regarding claim 57**, claim 57 is directed to a computer program product associated with the method claimed in claim 1. Claim 57 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 97**, claim 97 is directed to a system associated with the method claimed in claim 1. Claim 97 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

12.   **Claims 1-8, 11-13, 15-16, 19-28, 57-64, 67, 69, 71-84, 91-92, and 95-97 are rejected**

under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gong, U.S. Patent Publication No.

2004/0064733, in view of Rice, III., (hereinafter "Rice"), U.S. Patent Publication No.

2002/0174010, published on November 21, 2002

- **Regarding claim 1**, Gong discloses a method for sharing files with remote

users, the method comprising:

accepting, at a proxy server, a request from a file sharer to share a file in an

original file location of the file sharer with a remote user (pars. 0009, 0020, 0029, and

0031-0034; Fig. 2; user sends emails with attachments through email client interface;

Project/Information Management Server (IMS) receives the attachment files or documents

along with identification information (descriptor and locator); [location where the IMS

stores attachment files is considered as original location of the file sharer]), the file

located at a file source inside an internal private network of the file sharer, said private

network having a firewall (par. 0009; ; Project/Information Management Server (IMS) can

*be installed inside or outside companies' fi*rewalls);

obtaining, by the proxy server, a set of credentials from the file sharer, wherein

the credentials are used to access the file in the original location (par. 0009; a user can

send out messages with attachment(s) in any formats; the Information Management Server

will apply Concurrent Version Control (CVS) and other file and document management

rules/commands (such as Edit, Delete, Modify, Link, Associate, etc.) specified by the e-mail

sender on the stored attachment files; permission to access the Client Information

Management Web Interface will be administrated by the original e-mail creator or the

group project organizer; see also pars. 0031-0034);

generating a proxy representation on the proxy server (pars. 0009, 0031-0034,

and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; a unique attachment descriptor and locator will be generated to

identify the save attachment; a version controlled copy of the original attachment from the

IMS) wherein the proxy representation enables remote access to modify the file in the

original location inside the private network (pars. 0009, 0031-0034, and 0036-0038; Fig.

2; the IMS will pass the version controlled file(s) back to Adapter Engine, then to recipient

local machine; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the

modified version through email; IMS will manage and log all check-in, checkout and

modification activities related to the attachment, and maintain one updated master copy;

the Information Management server will store one master copy of the original file(s), and

all modification will be checked against the master version and get update), wherein the

proxy representation contains location information used by the proxy server to locate the

file inside said private network (pars. 0009 and 0032-0033; a unique attachment descriptor

and locator will be generated to identify the saved attachment, and the original e-mail will

include the newly created descriptor and locator in its message body and be sent to

recipients through normal mail servers; adapter/server engine passes the attachment files

or documents along with identification information (descriptor and locator) to

Project/Information Management Server), and wherein the proxy server contains the set of

credentials of the file sharer that are needed to access the file on the file source (par. 0009;

the Information Management Server will apply Concurrent Version Control (CVS) and

other file and document management rules/commands (such as Edit, Delete, Modify, Link,

Associate, etc.) specified by the e-mail sender on the stored attachment files; permission to

access the Client Information Management Web Interface will be administrated by the

original e-mail creator or the group project organizer; see also pars. 0031-0034);

receiving a request from the remote user to access the proxy representation on

the proxy server (pars. 0009 and 0036-0038; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s)

directly through Client Information Management Web Interface; the recipient can modify

the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through e-mail or

through Client Information Management Web Interface);

providing, the remote user access to the proxy representation and receiving one

or more modifications via the proxy representation on the proxy server from the remote

user (pars. 0009 and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly

through Client Information Management Web Interface; pars. 0009 and 0036-0038;

recipient(s) can access the attachment(s) directly through Client Information Management

Web Interface; the recipient can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the

modified version through e-mail or through Client Information Management Web

Interface);

wherein after the updating, when the file sharer accesses the file in the original

location, changes to the proxy representation made by the remote user are reflected in the

file in the original location (pars. 0009, 0031-0034, and 0036-0038; Fig. 2; the recipient

can modify the file(s) in his/her local machine and check in the modified version through

email; the Information Management server will store one master copy of the original

file(s), and all modification will be checked against the master version and get update;

[after the modified version is checked-in, the master version is updated with the modified

version]).

Gong does not explicitly disclose the proxy server logs into and interacts with

the file source by using the set of credentials and wherein the proxy server modifies the file

by using the set of credentials provided by the file sharer.

However, in an analogous art, Rice discloses a method of distributing and

sharing computer data files, wherein the proxy server logs into and interacts with the file

source by using the set of credentials and wherein the proxy server modifies the file by

using the set of credentials provided by the file sharer (Rice: pars. 0109-0110; upon

execution of the hyperlink by a remote client 140 a process will be executed by the server

142 by which a remote client 140 will have a thin-client process [i.e., AppLink

application/proxy server] loaded onto it, and then access the remote data file, while the

native application of the data file runs on the server; the originator of a document AppLink

may specify, for example, whether a remote client accessing the document may alter the

document, selected in pull-down list 151, whether the remote client may save the list locally

(pull-down list 152), and whether a password will be required in order to access the data

file being linked; par. 0163; because the AppLink is server-based, it can be changed

anytime, and the person viewing it always views the latest version; see also pars. 0111-

0115, 0163-0166, and 0121-0125; Figs. 3 and 5; remote client enters password in text box

220 to access [and/or alter] the document).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Rice with the method and system

of Gong, wherein the proxy server logs into and interacts with the file source by using the

set of credentials and wherein the proxy server modifies the file by using the set of

credentials provided by the file sharer to provide users with means for managing of

document sharing and collaborating (Rice: par. 0019).

- **Regarding claim 2**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong and Rice further disclose obtaining the credentials comprises accepting the

credentials from the file sharer (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033; users can access and change

the environment setting by login through Client Information Management Web Interface;

Rice: pars. 0110-0115, 0163-0166, and 0121-0125).

- **Regarding claim 3**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong and Rice further discloses obtaining the credentials comprises retrieving

previously stored credentials (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033; Rice: pars. 0110-0115, 0163-

0166, and 0121-0125).

- **Regarding claim 4**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong and Rice further disclose using the credentials to store a cached copy of

the file in association with the proxy representation (Gong: pars. 0009, 0031, and 0033-

0036; Rice: pars. 0110-0115, 0163-0166, and 0121-0125).

- **Regarding claim 5**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong and Rice further disclose storing the credentials in association with the proxy representation (Gong: par. 0009 and 0034; permission to access the Client Information Management Web Interface will be administrated by the original email creator; IMS will manage and log all check-in, checkout and modification activities related to the attachment; Rice: pars. 0155-0156; Fig. 12).

- **Regarding claim 6**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong further discloses accepting a view request from the remote user (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0035-0036; Fig. 2); and enabling the remote user to view the file (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036; Fig. 2).

- **Regarding claim 7**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong further discloses accepting a share request from the remote user (Gong: pars. 0009, 0020-0021, and 0029; Fig. 2; mail client sends a messages with attachment to a recipient); and enabling the remote user to share the file with a third party (Gong: pars. 0009, 0021-0023, 0031-0036; Fig. 2; recipient gets the message and requires downloading the attached file(s)).

- **Regarding claim 8**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong further discloses accepting an email request from the remote user (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029); and transmitting an email associated with the file (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029).

- **Regarding claim 11**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

  Gong further discloses the request comprises a request generated by:

  viewing a representation of the file within a graphical user interface (Gong: pars.
  0009 and 0029; a dynamic link of all projects (attachment related) to which a user
  subscribed will be conveniently displayed on email or web-mail client interface);

  selecting the representation of the file within the graphical user interface (Gong:
  pars. 0009 and 0029; user sends emails with attachments through email client interface
  (Outlook, etc.) or web browser based web-mail client interface (Hotmail, etc.));

  viewing a menu associated with the file, the menu displaying actions that can be
  performed on the file (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029); and

  selecting a share option from the menu (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029).

- **Regarding claim 13**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

  Gong further discloses generating the proxy representation comprises generating
  a proxy representation configured to enable the remote user to read the file (Gong: pars.
  0009, 0033-0034, and 0038).

- **Regarding claim 15**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

  Gong further discloses determining if a database entry associated with the
  remote user is stored on an account database (Gong: pars. 0009, 0030, and 0033).

- **Regarding claim 16**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 15.

  Gong further discloses storing the proxy representation in association with the
  database entry associated with the remote user in response to a positive determination

(Gong: pars. 0009 and 0029-*0036; after successfully logging into user's email account, the* user is able to either send email with attachments or downloading the attached file).

- **Regarding claim 19**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Gong further discloses accepting a retrieval request from the remote user (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0035-0038).

- **Regarding claim 20**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 19.

    Gong and Rice further disclose using the credentials to retrieve the file (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033-0037; Rice: pars. 0110-0115, 0163-0166, and 0121-0125).

- **Regarding claim 21**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 19.

    Gong and Rice further discloses the retrieval request includes authentication information for the remote user (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0033-0037; Rice: pars. 0110-0115, 0163-0166, and 0121-0125).

- **Regarding claim 22**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 19.

    Gong further discloses providing access to a cached version of the file (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038).

- **Regarding claim 23**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 19.

    Gong further discloses accepting a modification request from the remote user (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038).

- **Regarding claim 24**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 23.

   Gong further discloses the modification request includes authentication information (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038).

- **Regarding claim 25**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 23.

   Gong further discloses using the credentials to modify the file (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038).

- **Regarding claim 26**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 23.

   Gong further discloses modifying a cached version of the file in response to the modification request (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038); and notifying the file sharer that the cached version has been modified (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0038; all users having rights to access the attachments will receive email notifications for any version or content update of a file).

- **Regarding claim 27**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 26.

   Gong further discloses synchronizing the file with the cached version in response to a request from the file sharer (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0036-0038).

- **Regarding claim 28**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 25.

   Gong further discloses notifying the file sharer that the file has been modified (Gong: pars. 0009 and 0038; all users having rights to access the attachments will receive email notifications for any version or content update of a file).

- **Regarding claim 57**, claim 57 is similar in scope to claims 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claims 58-64**, claims 58-64 are similar in scope to claims 2-8, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 67**, claim 67 is similar in scope to claim 11, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 69**, claim 69 is similar in scope to claim 13, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claims 71-72**, claims 71-72 are similar in scope to claims 15-16 respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claims 75-84**, claims 75-84 are similar in scope to claims 19-28, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 91**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Rice further discloses notifying the file sharer prior to updating the file in the original location to reflect the changes made to the proxy representation (Rice: pars. 0167 and 0186-0189; Figs. 40, 40B-40C, and 42; Applink Access Notification).

- **Regarding claim 92**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

    Rice further discloses the proxy server, after receiving the modifications logs into the file source by using the credentials and updates the file in the original location

from which the file was originally retrieved to reflect the modification received at the

proxy server (Rice: pars. 0109-0110; upon execution of the hyperlink by a remote client

140 a process will be executed by the server 142 by which a remote client 140 will have a

thin-client process [i.e., AppLink application/proxy server] loaded onto it, and then access

the remote data file, while the native application of the data file runs on the server; the

originator of a document AppLink may specify, for example, whether a remote client

accessing the document may alter the document, selected in pull-down list 151, whether the

remote client may save the list locally (pull-down list 152), and whether a password will be

required in order to access the data file being linked; see also pars. 0110-0115, 0163-

0166, and 0121-0125).

- **Regarding claims 95-96**, claims 95-96 are similar in scope to claims 91-92

respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

- **Regarding claim 97**, claim 97 is directed to a system associated with the

method claimed in claim 1. Claim 97 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore

rejected under similar rationale.

13.   **Claims 9-10 and 65-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over

Gong and Rice, as applied to claims 1, 29, and 57 above, and further in view of DeBry,

U.S. Patent No. 6,385,728, issued on May 07, 2002.

- **Regarding claim 9**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

Gong and Rice do not explicitly disclose accepting a print request from the

remote user; and transmitting a print request associated with the file to a remote print

service

However, in an analogous art, DeBry discloses a method for retrieving a file

from a file source including the steps of accepting a print request from the remote user

(DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step

515); and transmitting a print request associated with the file to a remote print service

(DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step

520-525).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the teaching of DeBry with the method and

system of Gong and Rice to include step of accepting a print request from the remote user;

and transmitting a print request associated with the file to a remote print service to enable a

client system to pass authorization, received from a file source, to a printer to retrieve and

print a file directly from the file source without the client system ever receiving a copy of

the file (DeBry: abstract; col. 1, lines 29-33).

- **Regarding claim 10**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 1.

 Gong and Rice do not explicitly disclose accepting a fax request from the remote user; and transmitting a fax request associated with the file to a remote fax service

 However, in an analogous art, DeBry discloses a method for retrieving a file from a file source including the steps of accepting a fax request from the remote user (DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; col. 12, lines 14-21; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step 520-525; a fax machine may be understood to be a printer in the context of this invention); and transmitting a fax request associated with the file to a remote fax service (DeBry: col. 10, lines 45-67 to col. 11, lines 1-15; col. 12, lines 14-21; Figs. 1, 4, and 5; wherein at least step 520-525; a fax machine may be understood to be a printer in the context of this invention).

 Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of DeBry with the method and system of Gong and Rice to include the steps of accepting a fax request from the remote user; and transmitting a fax request associated with the file to a remote fax service to enable a client system to pass authorization, received from a file source, to a printer to retrieve and print a file directly from the file source without the client system ever receiving a copy of the file (DeBry: abstract; col. 1, lines 29-33).

- **Regarding claims 65-66**, claims 65-66 are directed to a computer program product associated with the method claimed in claims 9-10. Claims 65-66 are similar in scope to claims 9-10 respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

14. **Claims 17-18 and 73-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over
Gong and Rice, as applied to claims 1, 29, and 57 above, and further in view of Jhingan et
al., (hereinafter "Jhingan"), U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0186851, filed on March 21,
2003.

- **Regarding claim 17**, Gong and Rice disclose the method of claim 15.

Gong and Rice do not explicitly disclose generating a new database entry
associated with the proxy representation for the remote user in response to a negative
determination.

However, in an analogous art, Jhingan discloses a method for email attachment
distribution, wherein generating a new database entry associated with the proxy
representation for the remote user in response to a negative determination (Jhingan: par.
0057; in situation where the recipient system 102 does not exits, then a new user profile is
created for which the user can submit a password and preferred location for future
deliveries).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the
time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Jhingan with the method and
system of Gong and Rice to include the steps of generating a new database entry associated
with the proxy representation for the remote user in response to a negative determination to
provide user with a means for enabling collaboration through large email attachment
(Jhingan: par. 0008).

- **Regarding claim 18**, Gong Rice, and Jhingan disclose the method of claim 17.

  Jhingan further discloses transmitting an email containing a registration key to the remote user (Jhingan: par. 0034; the locator object may be embedded as a linked object with the email and sent to a recipient system 102; the attachment associated with the locator code may be downloaded from a server to the recipient system 102).

  Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Jhingan with the method and system of Gong and Rice to include the steps of transmitting an email containing a registration key to the remote user to provide user with a means for enabling collaboration through large email attachment (Jhingan: par. 0008).

- **Regarding claims 73-74**, claims 73-74 are directed to a computer program product associated with the method claimed in claims 17-18; claims 73-74 are similar in scope to claims 17-18, respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

    A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than

SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

16.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Luu Pham whose telephone number is 571-270-5002. The examiner

can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Emmanuel L. Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information

for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information

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217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service

Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA

OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Luu Pham/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437